

REMARKS

In the Amendment C Filed Under Rule 116 After Final Rejection applicant distinguished the amended claims from the prior art. Applicants' prior remarks are repeated below:

The Examiner's rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 for being anticipated by the Ando et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,851,097, and claims 2,13, 14, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for being unpatentable over, Ando et al. in view of the Nakasugi U.S. Patent No. 5,933,211 as these rejections may be attempted to be applied to the amended claims, is respectfully traversed.

In support of this traverse, applicant submits that amended claim 1 specifies the ability to write different patterns with the sub-beams and that amended claim 1 is now delimited from the prior art by a function which is not disclosed in the prior art.

Note that while Ando et al. may split a beam into sub-beams, Ando et al. does not write patterns with sub-beams.

Likewise, Nakasugi does not write patterns with sub-beams. It is believed that Nakasugi is only cited for its teaching of a multi-beam lithography apparatus comprising a collimator.

Applicants submit that the amended claims are clear of the prior art cited and otherwise in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that end is requested.

6/30/03
Date

Respectfully submitted,


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